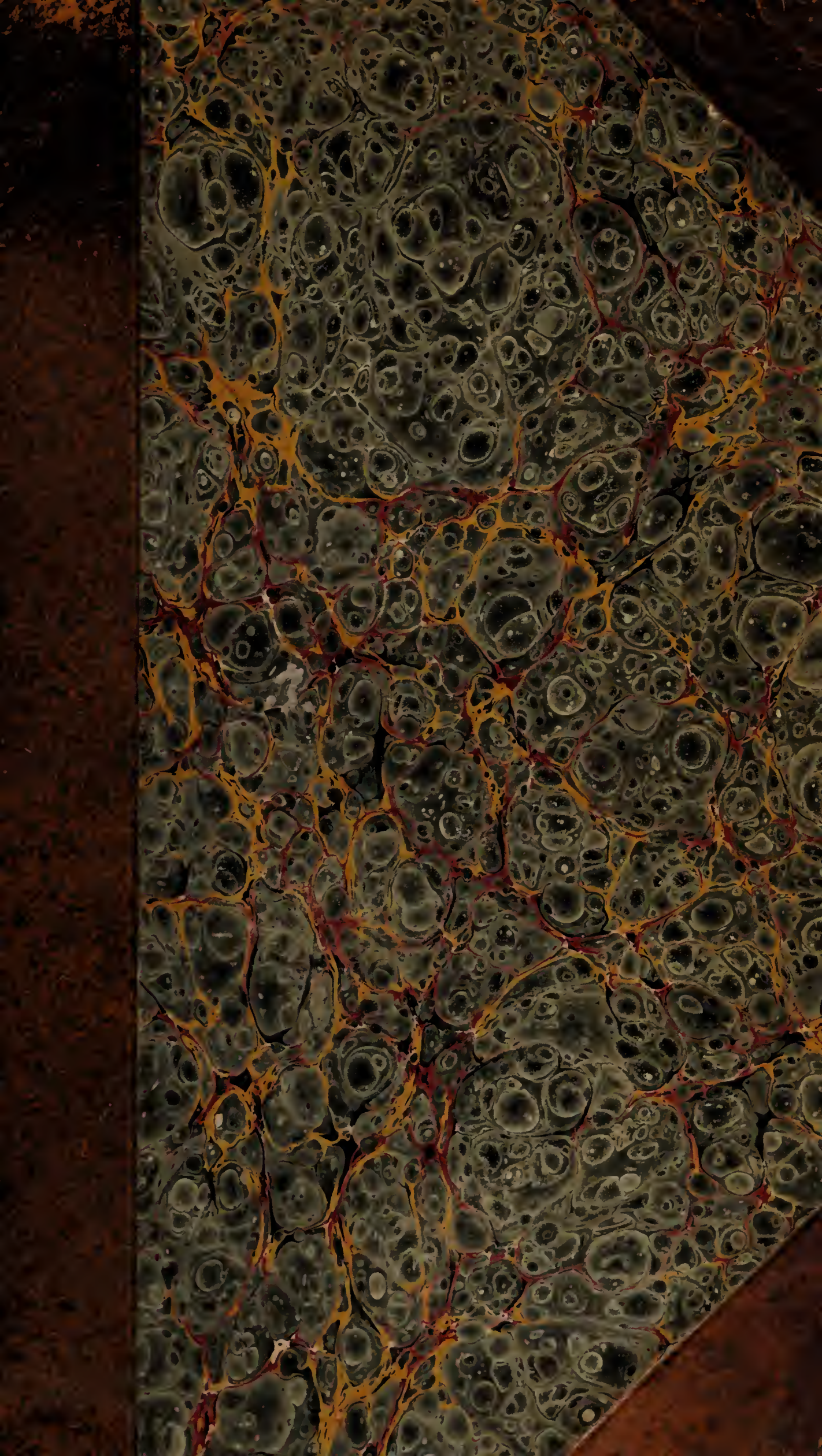

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The Common Purple Vervain

Flower.....A
Seed.....B
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AN

ESSAY

On the NATURE and CURE of the

KING's EVIL,

DEDUCED FROM

OBSERVATION and PRACTICE.

The FOURTH EDITION,

With ADDITIONS, and a great VARIETY of

CASES and their REMEDIES,

With a PLATE of the Herb VERVAIN:

Publiſhed, for the Good of Mankind, particularly the Common People.

By JOHN MORLEY, Eſquire,
of *Halſted*, in *Eſſex*.

Facts are ſtubborn Things.

LONDON:

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PREFACE.

HAVING ſome years ſince had a Method of treating ſcrophulous Diſorders, or the King's Evil fallen into my Hands, and having, by many repeated Trials, found the great Succeſs of ſuch a Method, from ſuch Numbers of Sufferers, as have put themſelves under my Directions and found relief; and being daily importuned not to let the Method die with me, I ſome Years ago publiſhed two Editions of this Eſſay, to let poor Sufferers (in my 3d Edition, now all ſold off) know where to apply for Advice (gratis), but did not then tell them any Receipts for the Diſtemper; I publiſhed thoſe Methods, and Things, that the common People could eaſily procure, and ſafely apply (but ſome that were beyond their Management I reſerved for another Opportunity.) I the more readily write this, that the poor Labourers and Handicraftſmen might not throw away their Mo-

ney and Time, after a Parcel of ſpecious Advertiſements, calculated to pick the poor Patients Pockets, and fill the Author's own. See! every News-Paper ſtuft with phyſical Preparations, and obſerve the ſhameful Abuſe of the Public, by their never-failing Medicines for every identical Diſorder; from the learned MD's, with their Elixirs, Eſſences, and Tinctures, to the poor Corn-Cutter, with his Plaiſter for Toes; the grand Virtue and Deſign of all theſe fine pompous Advertiſements, is to let the Reader know, how much Money he muſt bring with him, for a Viol of Eſſence, or a Box of Pills, how long they will laſt, and when the next Payment is to be repeated. Many eminent Practitioners have aſſured me, they really do not underſtand the Treatment of ſcrophulous Caſes, as they uſually withſtand all the common Methods of Practice. I do not (in this Eſſay) pretend to inform the Learned in the Management of ſcrophulous Diſorders, who are ſuppoſed to know them much better than I do; but only, to inſtruct the plain honeſt

honeſt Artificers and Labourers, how, in many Caſes, to cure themſelves and Families, without phyſical Aſſiſtance, which their Pockets are unable to procure. What I here offer to the Public, is the reſult of much Reading, and many Years Practice, on above fourteen hundred Subjects; ſome hundreds quite cured, and many greatly relieved, ſome Limbs preſerved condemned to Amputation, others cured turned out of Hoſpitals, as well as ſeveral Caſes given over by the moſt eminent Phyſicians and Surgeons. I ſhall uſe the plaineſt Words, and moſt common Expreſſions, I can poſſibly think on, to inſtruct the Vulgar, and tell them the moſt ſimple and cheapeſt Remedies, and eaſieſt to be procured by poor People, not much regarding Stile or Expreſſion, ſo I may be underſtood by common Readers, for whoſe Uſe this is deſigned, and not to tickle the Ears, or pleaſe the Palates of the cenſorious Readers or mercenary Reviewers, who find fault with what they do not underſtand. I ſhall deſcribe the King's Evil, or ſcrophulous Diſorders

with their Appearances, in ſuch a plain Manner, that the moſt unlearned may know it in common Caſes (where there is no Complication of other Diſorders with it) without conſulting Surgeons or Apothecaries, who (if they do know the Diſorder) will ſeldom acknowledge it. I have obſerved, the better Sort are very averſe from being told their Diſorders are ſcrophulous, but are contented to have them called Scorbutick, and their Apothecaries humour them in the Deceit, for fear of loſing the Family. When ſuch Perſons apply to me, and deſire to know my real Opinion, I tell them my Sentiments in the tendereſt Manner, and never mention ſuch Perſons Names, that I may give no Offence to any one; thoſe that like to have the Diſorder called Scorbutick may find Relief, if they chuſe to have that Name given to their Complaints. Thoſe that would deceive, let them be deceived. What I here relate is ſtrict Truth; as I take no Money for my Advice, it cannot be ſuppoſed I can have any deſign to impoſe upon the Credulous. I ſhall relate

the

the Caſes and their Remedies, with the Succeſs that followed; the Perſons whoſe Names I mention are referred to, for a Confirmation of what I aſſert. Let not the Simplicity of the Proceſs, or Slowneſs, or Progreſs of the Cure diſhearten the Patients, or the Ridicule of Mr. Apothecary, &c. be any Hindrance to the Uſe of the Things I recommend; but let them not mix any other Preſcriptions with mine; for it is very likely, ſuch a Proceeding may defeat my Intentions in the Method of Cure.

A N

E S S A Y

On the NATURE and CURE of the

K I N G's E V I L.

THE King's Evil is a name given to a very grievous and obſtinate Diſeaſe, ever ſince *Edward* the Confeſſor's Time, becauſe ſaid to be cured by him and other ſucceeding Kings both of *England* and *France*. Above Ninety-two thouſand Perſons are recorded to have been touched for it by King *Charles* the Second only, and with what Succeſs is variouſly related, diſputed, and believed; all this I leave to others that have Time, to read Mr. *John Brown* (Surgeon to King *Charles* the Second) his Account of the King's Evil, and a great Number of other Writers on the ſame Subject. This Diſeaſe is either Hereditary or Accidental; but I find on a cloſe Examination of the Sufferers, not one in twenty is without ſome

Family

Family Taint. The loweſt Degree of this Diſorder ſeems to be the Swelling of the Upper Lip, without any apparent Cauſe, which I look upon as an infallible Sign of the Evil in the Habit of Body, though no other Appearances. Sometimes both Lips, the Noſe, and Cheeks inflame and ſwell, the lower Jaw-bones are often troubled with Swellings on and about them, and cauſe bad and rotten Teeth. Frequent Ulcers on the Gums, and many Swellings under the Ears, Jaws, and Chin, and many Parts of the Neck and Shoulders, ſometimes ſmooth, moveable and not diſcoloured, or painful, at other Times, come to Sores, break and run much for a Length of Time, and are healed up with great Difficulty, and often break out again, if the Habit of Body is not altered. The Eyes are very frequently ſcrophulous, they looking inflamed, and of a dead reddiſh or leaden Colour, (and ſometimes white Specks on or near the Pupil or Sight) which generally diſcharge great Quantities of clear, ſaltiſh, or ſcalding Water, which takes the Skin off the Cheeks as it flows down. Often ſmall running Ulcers at the greater Corners of the Eye, which diſcharge a whitiſh thick Matter, which glues the Eye-lids together in a Morning, and which are opened with difficulty. When theſe Complaints withſtand the uſual Methods of Bleeding, Bliſter-

ing behind the Ears, Cupping, Setons, and a long Train of Etceteras, for Months together, we may venture to pronounce them ſcrophulous. What ſome People fancy to be the St. *Anthony*'s Fire, is oftimes a Species of this Diſorder. Swellings on the Knees and Elbows, without Redneſs or Inflammation, vulgarly called White Swellings, are to be accounted ſcrophulous. When Sores or Ulcers have been long near the Joints or Bones, and will not heal with common Applications, it is a ſhrewd Sign the Bones are foul or carious: In that Caſe, Pieces of Bone, ſharp and ragged, ſeemingly Worm-eaten, and little Pieces like coarſe Sand are ſeen on the Plaiſters amongſt the Pus or Matter when taken off. When the Griſtles or Cartilages on the Head of the Bones are conſumed, then follows a ſtiff Joint, by the Bones growing together; the Muſcles under the Hams and the Inſide of the Elbows, I have often found have been divided by the Knife, by unſkilful Hands, ſo that Joint, has been rendered uſeleſs. I have met with Swellings within-ſide the Throat, and the Tonſils greatly tumefied and inflamed, and threatening a Suffocation, with no viſible Appearances outwardly. This Diſtemper may ſhew itſelf like a Leproſy, with a very thick white Scroff on the Head and elſewhere. When the Diſorder falls on the Lungs, then beware of a galloping Conſumption,

ſumption, as it is frequently called. After the Meaſles and Small-pox, weak Eyes, and running Sores are not unuſual, which People ſeldom think proceeds from the Evil, but it is too often the Caſe. A very dry thick cruſty Scab near the Elbows and Joints is ſometimes ſeen, which when removed, is ſoon ſucceeded by others of the ſame Nature, which are difficult to cure, before the Conſtitution is amended. The Glands under Womens Armpits, frequently ſwell or tumefy, and their Breaſts are invaded by hard, unequal, painful Tumors or Swellings, which have been too often miſtaken for Cancers, and the Knife applied by miſtaken Practitioners, to the irreparable Damage of the poor Sufferer; but if theſe Breaſts are neglected or wrongly treated, they often degenerate into real Cancers, then every one knows the Caſe is deplorable. When the Bones are foul the Caſe is bad, though not always to be deſpaired of; ſometimes the Marrow of the Bone is touched, or the Diſeaſe begins in the Bone itſelf, which may be obſerved when the Bones themſelves ſeem ſwelled about the Head of them, and afterwards Sores break out and diſcharge a thin oily Matter, then is this, truly a deplorable Caſe. How often is the Diſeaſe conveyed to tender Infants, by ſcrophulated Nurſes, who ſhall look like the Picture of Health (as many do)

till

till they diſcloſe their hidden Infirmities. When a Family of ſound Health and free from all Humours, find their Children diſeaſed in this and the like Manner, they are filled with Aſtoniſhment, and think it is impoſſible their Children ſhould have the Evil, when there is not the leaſt Traces of it either in Father or Mother's Family; but let them not deceive themſelves, for alas! it is too common. If, upon a curious Enquiry amongſt the Relations of a Family, any of the aforeſaid Symptoms have been remembered, (tho' a Generation or two diſtant,) the Complaint may be ſuſpected to be the Evil; it will lie dormant ſome Years, appearing and diſappearing in ſome Families for many Generations, and ſhow itſelf in many Forms, in all Ages, Sexes, and Conditions, from the Birth to the Age of 85, as I have experienced; one amongſt numerous Relations or many Children of the ſame Parents ſhall only ſhow it in one Inſtance, and all the reſt be free and clear. This Diſeaſe appears in ſo many Forms, it would be endleſs to attempt any further Deſcription, theſe being the moſt frequent Complaints in the ſimple King's Evil (without Complication) and I think ſufficient to inform the common People in ordinary Caſes, what they ail in general, without phyſical Advice, which they with Difficulty obtain. All theſe, and ſuch like Com-

plaints,

plaints, are removed by much Time, Patience, and a ſteady Adherence to my Directions, even for Years in ſome Subjects. One conſtant Method I uſe to every Patient without Diſtinction, let their Complaints be what they will, if upon Examination I have Reaſon to ſuſpect them to be ſcrophulous, is, to give them a Piece of freſh Common Purple Vervain-Root, about three or four Inches long, and the Size of the Patient's little Finger; all the Fibres are to be cut off ſmooth, and as little of the Bark as poſſible, to be worn, always at the Pit of the Stomach, tied with a Yard of white Sattin Ribband, half an Inch wide, round the Neck of Men or Women of an ordinary Stature; if taller, an Ell will be wanting, and Children in Proportion. To the better ſort of Females I propoſe the Ribband to be faſtened through an Eylet-hole in the Boſom of the Shift, and ſo worn, which will be no Eyeſore; a Quarter of a Yard of Ribband will be enough; but no other coloured Ribband is proper; becauſe the Dye in ſome Colours may be prejudicial; the Root muſt never be wetted, not when freſh gathered, but wiped clean with a dry Cloth; it muſt not be ſown up or covered with any thing, but always worn naked at the Pit of the Stomach. If it hurts or pricks the Stomach, the Fibres muſt be taken off ſmooth with a ſharp Knife,

as

as before when firſt uſed, preſerving as much of the Root as poſſible; I always cut a little Notch round the upper End of the Root, and tie the Ribband with a double faſt Knot, leſt it ſlip out and be loſt; when it has been worn a few Days, it will ſhrink by the Heat of the Stomach, then the Ribband muſt be tied faſter. A Buckle or Button on the Boſom of a Man's Shirt will be convenient to keep the Root next the Skin, as well in Bed as up. Obſerve the Root be not decayed or rotten, but freſh and green; and it is neceſſary to have a freſh one every Spring and Fall. When I put this Root about the Patient's Neck, I am not aſhamed to ſay, "Pray God give his Bleſſing to theſe my Endeavours *," or ſome ſuch ſhort Ejaculation; not by way of Charm, or ſuch like Nonſenſe, but to remind the Patient of our Dependence on the divine Help, co-operating with the natural Means he has provided for our Comfort and Relief; and ſurely there is as good Reaſon to beg his Bleſſing on this as our daily Food. Here methinks I ſee the Criticks ſmile and the Reviewers laugh; but let them laugh that receive the Benefit, nor heed ſuch Trifles. Trifles indeed! See the Critical Reviewers, for June 1767, on the Third Edition of this Eſſay. The Public

* See Eccleſ. Chap. xxxviii. Verſe 14.

are

are (no Doubt) much obliged to them, for making the Means of Recovery of the Health and Eaſe of their fellow Creatures, from their Maladies, the Objects of Ridicule and Banter. A Lady tells me,

> Their Heads or Hearts unſound muſt be,
> They cannot, or they will not ſee.

This Root being of ſuch general Uſe in all Stages of the Evil, it will be proper to give a plain Deſcription of the Herb Vervain, and the Place and Manner of its Growth, that it may be eaſier found and known by the unlearned Countryman. The common Vervain grows with a fibrous or ſtringy Root, of a light Brown Colour, very hard, bitteriſh, and irregular; ſends up many Stalks half a Yard high, ſquariſh, ſolid, ſomewhat rough, of a purpliſh Green, and branched; the Leaves ſtand upon the Stalks in Couples over-againſt each other, hairy on both Sides, wrinkled, and jagged, with deep Cuts, and wide at the Stalk End, ſomething like Oak Leaves when half grown, of a deeper Green above than beneath. The Flowers are ranged in long Spikes, of a pale Purple, divided into five Parts at the Top, ſucceeded by four ſmall longiſh Seeds joined together. The Flower is very ſmall, the two uppermoſt Segments appearing like a Creſt, and turned

turned upwards. It grows very often in Highways, Court-yards, chalky, gravelly, and ſtony uncultivated Places, and blows in July, Auguſt, September, and October. Some call it the Holy Herb, ſome Juno's Tears, others Mercury's moiſt Blood; in Latin, *Verbena*; in Welch, Cas gangythrel. All the Herb is very bitter and aſtringent; it is much celebrated by ancient Authors, and but juſt noticed by a few Moderns, as being almoſt out of the faſhionable Part of Practice, though formerly famed for numberleſs Virtues. This Plant, by a Chymical Analyſis, yields ſeveral acid Liquors, abundance of Oil, pretty much volatile concrete Salt and Earth: From whence it is probable, that it contains ſome Sal Ammoniac, united with a good deal of Sulphur. It is vulnerary, cleanſing, and opening. The other Medicines and Applications, with their Preparations, ſuch as common People may manage, will be found interſperſed amongſt the Caſes following.

CASE I.

PHILIP WINTERFLOOD, late of *Halſted* in *Eſſex*, a Journeyman Barber, aged 35 Years, now living at the Sign of the *Peruke*, oppoſite the *White-Horſe* at *Mile-End*, near *London*, was, for Eight Years paſt,

miſerably afflicted with ſeveral ſtrumous Ulcers under both Breaſts (he was a fat Man;) ſome were above an Inch deep, and diſcharged much foul corrupted Matter, and had done ſo for Years, could get no Help, and had the Evil hereditarily in his Family many Years: This poor Man was in *Halſted* Workhouſe, and under all the Diſadvantages of bad Diet, and worſe Attendance. The firſt Thing I did was to give him the Vervain Root to wear about his Neck, and ordered him ſome gentle Phyſic once a Week, viz. Syrup of Roſes one Ounce, and Manna one Ounce, diſſolved in a Pint of ſkimmed Milk, for one Doſe; ſometimes he got it, and ſometimes he did not. I gave him a Phial of Liquor to waſh his Sores with Night and Morning, viz. Vinegar one third, Red Port Wine one third, and Vervain Water diſtilled one third; and ſome Ointment to ſpread on a Rag, and lay on the Sores after waſhing them. The Ointment was made of green Vervain Leaves bruiſed, with about a tenth part of Houſe-leek Leaves bruiſed, and both boiled in Pork Lard, till it was of a good Conſiſtence, and all the watry Part waſted, then ſtrained and kept for uſe. It may be made ſtronger by boiling the ſame Quantity of Herbs in the ſame Liquor as before. Note: Inſtead of diſtilled Vervain Water, which poor People

cannot

cannot ſo eaſily procure, the Infuſion of the Vervain Leaves may be uſed; that is, hot boiling Water poured upon the Herb (like Tea) and covered, and when cold may be uſed in its ſtead; this Method cured this Man in ſix Months, and nothing elſe was uſed, and he continues well to this Day, which is above ten Years ago.

CASE II.

Robert Heatherly, Son of the Reverend Mr. *Heatherly* late Miniſter of *Clavering* in *Eſſex*, formerly Maſter of the School in St. *Bartholomew*'s Hoſpital, *London*, aged 23 Years, was an Out-Patient there for the King's Evil, had the ſecond Joint of his Thumb ſo affected that the Bone was digeſted out, and many other Sores healed up and ſeemed cured; not long after the Diſorder fell into both his Eyes, with ſome ſmall unbroken Tumors in the Neck and under both Ears, and had been blind ſome Months. He came to me with both his Eyes covered, has been well ſome Years and is now in the Exciſe. I gave this Man a Root as uſual, and ordered him a gentle Purge of half Manna and half Syrup of Roſes in thin Milk, once a Week for three Months, and to leave off all Covering to his Eyes, and waſh them often with cold Spring

Water, and dropping it into the Eyes, this reſtored him perfectly to his Sight.

CASE III.

Anne Nunn, Daughter of *John Nunn*, Farmer, near *Laindon-hills* in *Eſſex*, aged 21 Years, had a large ſcrophulous Tumor opened on the right under Jaw-bone by Mr. *Earl* of *Hornden*; it diſcharged moſtly a thin watery Matter, but as he could not heal the Wound ſhe came to me, I gave her a Root as uſual and ordered ſome gentle Purges, (but no Salts on any Account, for I always find them bad in ſcrophulous Caſes) and gave her ſome Vervain Ointment for the Wound, which ſoon healed it up.

CASE IV.

Elizabeth Reynolds, Wife of *Joſeph Reynolds* of *Haſted*, Farmer, aged 25 Years, came with her Lips much ſwelled, and had been coming three Years; the Inſide of the Noſe and upper Lip broke out and very ſcabby, and a large uneven ſcrophulous Tumour had been increaſing three Quarters of a Year under the right Ear, and ſeveral ſmall Swellings on the left Side of the Neck. I diſperſed all the Swellings, and cured her other Complaints, in ſix Months, ſhe

ſhe has had no Returns, now five Years ago. Firſt I gave her a Root, and purged her with gentle Phyſic as uſual; I gave her ſome Vervain Ointment for the Lip and Noſe, and ordered her to take ſome green Hemlock Leaves, and bruiſe and apply them warm once a Day to the large Tumor; in ſix Weeks the Tumor was greatly diminiſhed, but the Hemlock worn conſtantly ſomething affected her Head and Eyes, ſo I ordered it only to be applied at Night and ſo lie on till Morning, which in two or three Months reduced the Swelling entirely, and all the ſmall Tumors vaniſhed, and is now, and has been ever ſince in good Health and Spirits. *Note*, If the Hemlock affects the Head, as it ſometimes will do, if applied near the Head and Neck, ſome gentle Phyſic muſt be often uſed, or the Quantity of Hemlock leſſened; if neither will do, leave it quite off.

CASE V.

William Ardley, Weaver, of *Coggeſhall* in *Eſſex*, aged 40 Years, had been much troubled with the Tooth-ach and Ear-ach, then a ſore broke within-ſide the left Cheek and diſcharged near a Pint of ſtinking matter at ſeveral Times, then a large Tumor aroſe on the left Jaw-bone and broke into three Ul-

cers, and diſcharged much Matter, when the Sore within the Mouth healed up, it was with Difficulty he could open it. I gave him a Root, and ordered him once a Week a Purge of Jalap, five or ſix Grains, more or leſs as it operated, two Motions a Day ſufficient. Applied to the Sores without ſide the Cheek, a Poultice of White Bread, Milk, White Lilly Roots, and Groundſel, all maſhed together, and laid on warm Morning and Night; this ſufficiently digeſted the Sore, then I healed it up with black Plaiſters as follows: Take White Lead finely powdered, Ounces two, Oil Olive, Ounces four, mixed in a large earthen Pipkin; boil it over a ſlow Fire, and ſtir it all the Time with a Piece of Lead till it grows of a deep brown or blackiſh Colour, which coſts an Hour or more; let the Pipkin not be above a Quarter full leſt it boil over, which it is very apt to do, let it cool in a Gally-pot and keep it for Uſe; when you uſe it, warm the Point of a Knife and ſpread it pretty thick on black Silk or Linen Rag, and apply warm, and it will ſtick; do not pull the Plaiſters off, leſt you hurt the Sore; when it falls off itſelf, apply a freſh one as long as wanted.

CASE

CASE VI.

Deborah Aſton, Wife of *Thomas Aſton* of *Heney* in *Eſſex*, aged 24 Years, when ſhe came to me had a running Ulcer about the Middle of the Outſide of her left Thigh, had been healing and running alternately for ten Years, a ſmall Ulcer near the left Breaſt, and ſmall Kernels ſometimes about the Neck and Throat, which ſhewed the Complaint to be ſcrophulous; ſhe had been twice ſalivated and much done to little Purpoſe. I gave her a Root, and ordered Roſe Leaves boiled in Whey for a gentle Purge once a Week, and ordered her to waſh the Ulcers twice a Day with a ſtrong Infuſion of Hemlock Leaves, and to apply a Rag ſpread with Elder Ointment over all. About two Months after ſhe felt a Piece of Bone very looſe, I ordered her then to apply much Lint wetted with the Infuſion Morn and Night, and the Elder Ointment as before; three Weeks after ſhe found the Point of a Bone ſticking out, ſhe herſelf, with the Point of a Penknife, enlarged the Wound and took out a Piece of Bone, and examining the Wound with her Finger took out two more Pieces, and much Blood followed; a Week after ſhe brought the three Pieces to me, the Wound

lookt clean and healed up in a Month's Time; ſhe has no Lameneſs, but walks well and enjoys good Health, and feels no more Prickings or Signs of any more Pieces of Bone; two of the Exfoliations are two Inches and a Half long each, and one Inch broad, and the other is two Inches long and three Quarters of an Inch broad, and all together weighing a Quarter of an Ounce; ſome Parts looked black and ſome white, and looked as if worm-eaten; the whole Length when laid together meaſured ſeven Inches. *Note*, Elder Ointment is made in the Spring, by boiling the young Leaves in Mutton Suet, till the Moiſture is waſted, or in Pork-Lard; to make it ſtrong, add the ſame Quantity of Leaves as before, after ſtraining the firſt Leaves from the Liquor, and repeat this three Times; in Winter when no Leaves, take the tender Bark of the laſt Summer's Shoots, ſcrape and boil them as above, and keep for Uſe.

CASE VII.

Robert Ruſs, aged 23, Son of Mr. *James Ruſs* Quarter-maſter of Sir *Robert Rich*'s Dragoons, when he came to me was quartered at *Chelmsford* in *Eſſex*; a Monkey had bitten the left Side of his Neck which was ſore,

ſore, he had many ſcrophulous Swellings under his Chin and round about the Neck, hard, and oftimes very painful, and many ſmall Puſtules breaking out like a ſalt Humour in many Parts. I gave him the Vervain Root to wear about his Neck, and ordered him a gentle Purge of Jalap in thin Milk once a Week; the other ſix Days to take a Dram of Antimony finely powdered, or levigated, mixt with the ſame Quantity of Loaf Sugar beat fine, and to waſh it down with a Quarter of a Pint of Groundivy Tea, and to continue this Courſe ſix Months, and ordered him to uſe Vervain Ointment to the Sores. An Acquaintance of his, which he recommended to my Care, aſſures me he told him he had the Happineſs of being perfectly cured, with God's Aſſiſtance, under my Hands; and declares no other Remedies he had ever uſed had any Effect but mine. This was three Years after the Cure.

CASE VIII.

John Butcher, of *Bocking* in *Eſſex*, Bay Weaver, aged 30. He firſt felt a daſhing Pain ſuddenly ſtrike into the lower Joint of the Fore-finger of his right hand, and in about a Month all the other Fingers and Thumb were affected in the ſame Manner, and ſo contracted, that he could not ſtir them

even

even with the other Hand without great Pain. No Diſcolouration or any perceivable Tumor, Swelling, or preternatural Heat, to the Touch of himſelf or others. This Man I reſtored to the full Uſe of his Hand, Fingers, and Thumb, by the following Method: I gave him a Root as uſual, and ordered a Purge of Roſe Leaves, boiled in Whey, once a Week, and directed him to boil Cabbage Leaves bruiſed in Water, and bathe his Hand in the warm Liquor Morn and Night, for half an Hour at a Time, and to rub all the Joints after Bathing with the Vervain Ointment. This Man had ſeveral Relations troubled with the Evil, and therefore ſuſpected his Complaint to be of that Nature, and treated him as a ſcrophulated Patient and cured him in two Months. He was diſcharged from the *Eſſex* Militia, and after Cure admitted again.

CASE IX.

Robert London, Son of *Robert London* of *Bradfield Combuſt* in *Suffolk*, aged 32, had a Fever which held about a Week; three Months after, thirteen Tumors aroſe about the Legs, Thighs, and Buttocks, had been all opened by a Surgeon, and diſcharged monſtrouſly, which had reduced him to a meer Skeleton; he was brought to me in a Cart

with

with a Bed made in it, being unable to move Hand or Foot, or to be moved without great Trouble; I went out to ſee this poor Man in the Cart, he looked ſo like a dead Corpſe, that People which ſaw him ſet out from Home never expected to ſee him return again alive, his Stomach gone, and Viſage ſo ghaſtly. This Man's Sores were all tented, which I ordered to be pulled out, and all the Dreſſings to be laid aſide, and ordered all the Sores to be gently ſyringed twice a Day with a ſtrong Decoction of Hemlock, Milk-warm, and apply dry Lint, and leſt it ſhould ſtick, Elder Ointment ſpread on a Rag over all, and ordered him daily half a Dram of Antimony finely powdered, with an equal Quantity of Loaf Sugar, and to waſh it down with Groundivy Tea. I alſo put a Root about his Neck, as I do to every one: in three Weeks Time his Stomach returned and his Sores began to heal, in two Months the Surgeon wrote me he was quite well; many call this the Running Evil.

CASE X.

Suſan Ottley, of *Bocking* in *Eſſex*, ſingle Woman, aged 26 Years, ſhe came to me with almoſt numberleſs Ulcers and fungous ſcabby Excreſcencies from the Top of the right Shoulder down below the Nipple of the right Breaſt, and all hollow like a Honey Comb,

Comb; ſhe had a deep Ulcer on the Inſide the Arm, near the right Arm-pit, one near her Shoulder, and one within-ſide the Arm about three Inches above the Elbow, and one almoſt under the right Buttock, and Stomach, and bad Health and Complexion, had this Diſeaſe hereditarily, had one Siſter died of it, and another had it in her Eyes, which I cured. This Perſon came and lived near me, ſo that I ſaw her once in eight or ten Days, by which Means I effected the Cure in the following Manner: I firſt gave her a Root, and applied a Plaiſter of Sperma Ceti and Sallad Oil to the Scabs on the Shoulder, Neck, and Breaſt, which made them ſhell off; afterwards applied the black Plaiſter, as in Caſe the Fifth, which being changed and renewed as Occaſion required, at length healed up all the Sores; all the Time of her Cure I gave her daily a Dram of Antimony, finely powdered, mixt with half a Dram of Loaf Sugar, and to drink a Cupful of Groundivy Tea after it; if it gave more than two Stools in twenty-four Hours, I leſſened the Doſe, and ſometimes increaſed it as I found her Body in Order; I continued this Courſe many Months; all her Sores are now well, and ſhe has got a good Stomach, and a healthy florid Countenance, and ſo likely to continue. I adviſe her to purge gently every Spring and Fall with Jalap three or four Times.

CASE XI.

Mary Bingham, Wife of *Adam Bingham*, Huſbandman, late of *Creſſing*, now living at *Patiſwick*, in *Eſſex*, aged 28 Years, was led to me, having been totally blind for twelve Months paſt. Both Eyes looked as almoſt covered over with Cobwebs, of a dead Leaden Colour, run much ſcalding Water, mixed with White thick Matter from the Corners of her Eyes, and almoſt continual daſhing Pains about her Forehead, with many ſcrophulous Breakings out about the Corners of her Mouth, and ſeveral other Places. I gave her a Root of Vervain to wear about her Neck, and ordered her to purge once a Week, with dried Damaſk Roſe Leaves, boiled in Whey, and gave her a Phial of diſtilled Vervain Water, to drop five or ſix Drops cold into each Eye, four or five Times a Day, and to waſh them every Morning with the coldeſt Spring Water. This Method, in a few Months, reſtored her Sight, ſo that ſhe can now ſee to ſpin, and any common Work. Three Years after this, ſhe ſhewed me her Right Breaſt very hard and full of Pain, ſome Remainder of the old Complaint, for Want of proper Care, having fallen into it: I ordered her to poultice it with half White Nettle Leaves, and half Elder Leaves, warm, Morning and Night, and this has reſtored it well as the other;

this

this is two Years ſince, and as I have heard nothing from her, no Doubt but ſhe continues well.

CASE XII.

Eleanor Bullmer, keeps the *Golden Lyon* in *Newmarket*, *Suffolk*, aged 55, about ſeven Years ſince, had a violent Raſh came out all over her, then fell into the Left Leg, and produced a very large foul, deep, ſtinking Ulcer, almoſt all round the ſmall of her Leg, five or ſix Inches long; the Muſcle that bends the Great Toe and Foot upwards, bare and dry as a horn, an Inch or more in Length, and grown about with much Proud Fleſh. This woman had not been able to ſtir off her Couch for a Year and a Half without great Difficulty, and two Stilts under her Arms; and a great Phyſician told her, that if ſhe went to an Hoſpital, the Ulcer might be healed in two Months, but in all Probability it would kill her. Living at *Newmarket*, ſeveral Phyſicians have ſeen her ſince I took her in hand: The Muſcle of the Leg is rotted out, ſo that ſhe cannot bend her Foot upwards, and muſt always go limping; ſhe goes about her Houſe without any Crutches, and now and then an underhand Staff, eſpecially up Steps: The Ulcer

is

is now very clean, and not above the Bigneſs of a Half Crown, and the Woman in good Health and Spirits, and able to manage her Houſe herſelf, having, ſince I firſt ſaw her, loſt her Huſband, who fetched me to ſee her. I gave her a Root, judging the Caſe ſcrophulous, and ordered the Ulcer to be cleanſed twiced a Day from its Filth, with a Decoction of Hemlock, and then to apply the Herb bruiſed, with Pork Lard and fine Oatmeal, warm, as a Poultice, freſh twice a Day as long as wanted, and at the ſame Time to uſe the following Diet Drink: *viz.* Take Senna, two Ounces; of ſharp pointed Dock Root, Half a Pound; the Great Water Dock Root, Half a Pound; Polypody Roots, Half a Pound; all ſliced very thin; Crude Antimony groſly powdered, one Pound, and tied up in a Rag: Boil all in three Gallons of Sweet Wort, till one Gallon is waſted; ſtrain it when cool enough; work it with a Spoonful of Yeaſt; add white Nettles, Green Broom, and Ground-Ivy, of each bruiſed a Handful; let all work together; when done, ſtrain and bottle up cloſe for Uſe. Of this Liquor ſhe drank a Coffee-Cupful, Morning and Night, and was to increaſe or leſſen the Doſe as it operated; two Motions in Twenty-four Hours are ſufficient. This Diet Drink ſhe regulated accordingly, and found great Effects from it. She was alſo to anoint her

Leg round the Ulcer with Elder Ointment. As the Ulcer is now brought to good Condition and ſmall Compaſs, I think it much better for her Health at her Time of Life, than healing it quite up. Note. It is beſt in Summer Time to make but half the Quantity of Diet Drink at once, leſt it turn ſour and vomitive; it muſt then be thrown away, and freſh made. I alſo cured her Son of the Evil in his Eyes at the ſame Time; and in the ſame Manner as before related.

CASE XIII.

John Nicolls, Son of *Zachariah Nicolls*, Miller, of *Little Aſhen*, near *Dunmow* in *Eſſex*, aged 7 Years, had a ſcrophulous Swelling of the Great Toe of the Left Foot, and ſeveral ſmall running Ulcers on the ſame, which diſcharged a thin Watery Icor, for Half a Year, and the Evil a little in the Left Eye. I gave this Child a ſmall Root; ordered Syrup of Roſes and Manna equal Parts, in thin Milk once a Week, for a gentle Purge, and to waſh his Eyes with the coldeſt Spring Water every Day, and a Cataplaſm of a Garden Snail out of a Shell, beat to a Maſh, with the ſame Quantity of Garden Parſley, and applied to the Toe freſh twice in Twenty-four Hours; this perfectly cured the Diſorder in three Months.

CASE XIV.

Matthew Byford, Son of *Abel Byford*, of *Little Sampford*, in *Eſſex*, aged 18 Years; three Years ſince, a large Tumor aroſe on the upper Part of his Left Thigh, and had been broke into an Ulcer about a Fortnight, and run much thick Matter: An Inch above the Ulcer was a very red inflammatory Swelling, which ſeemed to communicate with the Ulcer: I gave this Lad a Root, and ordered to purge once a Week, with equal Parts of Manna and Syrup of Roſes, diſſolved in Cheeſe Whey, for two Months, and to inject a Decoction of Hemlock into the running Ulcer; then to apply a Poultice of half white Nettle Leaves (by ſome called Archangel) and half Elder Leaves, beat into a Maſh, with a little Pork Lard and fine Oatmeal, freſh and warm, twice a Day, over both Ulcer and Tumor, which in three Months made a perfect Cure.

CASE XV.

Elizabeth Golden, Wife of *John Golden*, of *Water Beauchamp*, in *Eſſex*, Huſbandman, had a Year ago a moſt violent hot ſalt Humour invaded her Left Leg, and broke into numberleſs Water Bladders, itched much, and greatly inflamed, and the Fleſh hardened; the Inſide of the Thigh on the ſame

Side began to be affected in the like Manner; I adviſed her to drink Half a Pint of Tea made with the common Red Dock Roots ſliced thin, Morning and Night, or boiled in Cheeſe Whey; then to waſh her Leg and Thigh all over with an Infuſion of Green Hemlock Leaves, and to anoint the ſame with Elder Ointment; in three Months ſhe came almoſt well, but complained of a Coldneſs at her Stomach, for which I ordered a gentle Purge of Jalap, with a little grated Ginger, once a Week. About two Months after ſhe came to thank me, being quite free of her Complaints.

CASE XVI.

Edward Howlet, of *Burnham*, in *Eſſex*, Huſbandman, aged 30; about two Years ago a Tumour appeared and diſappeared at Times, near the Right Jugular for a Year; afterwards it ſwelled as large as a Halfpenny Loaf, then was poulticed by a Surgeon's Directions, but it did not ſuppurate or diſperſe, but was opened, and ſome Part cut away, and diſcharged a little thick bloody Matter; it had been cut eleven Times, as faſt as the fungous kept growing, and diſcharged much of the ſame ſort of Matter. Now he came to me, and the fungous was large and flat, with thick Edges, like a Cake laid on the Part; the Edges were ulcerated, it was three

Inches

Inches in Diameter, and one Inch thick, the Man well in every other Reſpect: As I apprehended this to be a ſcrophulous Caſe, I gave him a Root to wear at his Stomach, and ordered to purge gently twice a Week with Damaſk Roſe Leaves, boiled in Cheeſe Whey, to apply Slips of the Black Plaiſter (ſee Caſe V.) to the Ulcers round the Edge of the fungous, and all over the Hemlock Leaves bruiſed and very hot, twice a Day. He came in a Month much mended, in three Months the fungous almoſt waſted, and ſome Months after he came to ſhew me, he was quite well, not the leaſt Remains of the fungous or any Ulcer, but the Neck ſmooth and even, and no Complaint whatever.

CASE XVII.

Elizabeth Hart, Daughter of *Thomas Hart*, of *Earls Colne*, *Eſſex*, Huſbandman, aged 20 Years, had a Swelling on the Windpipe, which compreſt it to a great Difficulty of ſwallowing, and her Throat very ſore within-ſide; had been increaſing two Years, the Lips often cracked and bled. I gave this young Woman a Root, and directed to purge gently often, with Syrup of Roſes and Manna in Cheeſe Whey or thin Milk, and to apply a Cataplaſm of a Garden Snail and Parſley bruiſed freſh, Morning and Evening; this brought out many ſmall Pimples, which

diſcharged ſome little watery Matter, then died away, and in a Day or two others appeared and diſcharged in like Manner for ſome Time, until the Humour diſcharged itſelf that Way, and the Swelling all gone. I ordered her alſo to bruiſe eight or ten Millipedes or Sow Bugs, and make them into a Pill with freſh Butter, and going to reſt to let it lye at the Root of her Tongue, and melt down leiſurely, till the Soreneſs within-ſide the Throat was no more; this Method in three Months removed all her Complaints.

CASE XVIII.

Joſeph Traylin, of *Topfield* in *Eſſex*, Cooper, aged 40 Years, had ſeveral Tumors and Ulcers on the back of his Right Hand, which rendered it uſeleſs, and ſome ſmall glandular Swellings about his Groin and Arm-pits, has the Evil ſtrong in the Family, found no Help from the Surgeon, then came to me as uſual; I gave him a Root, and ordered to purge weekly for ſix Weeks, with Damaſk Roſe Leaves boiled in Whey, and ſweetened with Manna, and to apply a Poultice of White Nettle Leaves beat to a Maſh, with a little Pork Lard, and fine Oat-Meal, freſh and warm twice a Day, to the Back of the Hand; in a Week he found great Benefit, and in a Fortnight more, the Swellings on the Back of the Hand are all down and well;

well; he came about two Months, his Hand quite firm and well, and all his other Complaints vaniſhed.

CASE XIX.

Mary Tyler, Wife of *William Tyler* of *Haltſted*, Huſbandman, aged 36 Years, had the Evil breaking out all over her at Times for many Years; when ſhe came to me had both Lips monſtrouſly ſwelled, and her Mouth ſo very ſore, that it was Pain to get her Victuals into it; her Noſe ſwelled, and all the lower Parts of her Face and Chin almoſt one entire Scab, with many ſcrophulous Breakings-out on the upper Part of her Face; ſhe was ſuch a Spectacle ſhe was aſhamed any Body ſhould ſee her; all her Neighbours told her ſhe ought to cover her Face when ſhe went into the Street; ſhe had many other Breakings-out of the ſame Kind on both Legs and Arms, and all very hot. I gave her a Root, and ordered gentle Jalap Purges twice a Week; and for conſtant Drink, a Handful of Groundivy-Leaves, and about an Ounce of Common Dock Roots ſliced thin, and boiled in two Quarts of Water, covered, till a Pint was boiled away, ſtrained and kept for Drink the next Day, and ſo conſtantly, except ſhe purged; the Mouth to be waſhed twice a Day with an Infuſion of green Hemlock-Leaves, and all Scabs on the Face, Legs,

and Arms, or other Places, but to be careful ſhe ſwallowed none, or touched her Eyes, then to anoint with the Elder Ointment. As ſhe lived by me, I ſaw her frequently, and ſometimes found it proper to add half Hemlock Ointment to the other, that is made by boiling the green Leaves of freſh Hemlock, bruiſed in Hog's Lard, and ſtrained; if it wants to be ſtronger, boil the ſame Quantity of the Hemlock-Leaves in the ſame Liquor two or three Times. She is now well, and her Face clean and ſmooth, and no ſcrophulous Symptoms; her Face being ſo much altered, many Town's Folks declared they did not know her.

CASE XX.

The next Caſe I ſhall give as drawn up by the Patient himſelf.

I *John Hickman*, Gardener to the Right Honourable Lady *Bateman*, at *Yeldham* in *Eſſex*, aged 50 Years; ſix Months ſince having a violent Rheumatic Pain ſtruck into my right Arm and Hand, with great Weakneſs, my Hand grew very thick, and my Fingers ſtood out ſtiff and immoveable, and quite uſeleſs, that I could not lift my Hand to my Head, nor take up an Ounce Weight off the Table with it; the Fleſh pitted much without Heat or Diſcolouration. I had a

ſmall

ſmall Ulcer on the Wriſt near my Hand. I was adviſed, and had a Letter of Recommendation to the moſt eminent Surgeons in *London*, to whom I applied without any Succeſs. After I came home, I was adviſed to apply to Mr. *Morley*, and three Weeks after I had been with him I could ſtir my Fingers, and in ten Weeks Time the Swelling of my Hand was wholly gone, the Ulcer is entirely healed, and now by the Bleſſing of God I can uſe my Hand and do my Work as uſual, and never was in a better State of Health in my Life, as witneſs my Hand,

February, 1766.

JOHN HICKMAN.

This Perſon was cured by the following Method; I gave him a large Vervain Root to wear at his Stomach, and directed him to purge once a Week with ten Grains of Jalap and ten Grains of Cream of Tartar, and to leſſen the Quantity, if more than three or four Motions. I directed him to boil half a Pound of Salt-petre in a Quart of Spring Water to a Pint, and to apply Cloths three or four Times double wetted in the Liquor pretty warm, three Times in twenty-four Hours, a Quarter of an Hour at a Time, and to wrap up the Hand warm in Flannel, and alſo a Flannel Sleeve tight on the Arm;

gave him ſome Vervain Ointment, as in Caſe I. to the Ulcer, and after a Piece of Lead Plaiſter, as in Caſe V. to the ſame, which is ſound and well.

As the foregoing twenty Caſes and their Remedies are faithfully related, I recommend the farther Uſe (in ſimilar Caſes) of theſe ſafe, eaſy, and cheap Medicines, and Applications, to ſuch unprejudiced perſons as ſhall be inclined to uſe them, not in the leaſt doubting the Benefit that may accrue to the Diſeaſed by a ſteady and regular Adherence to my Directions. I have had Thanks from many Perſons, for the Benefits they have received, by my Eſſay being put into their Hands; and obſerving, and uſing the Directions therein; without my perſonal Knowledge or Aſſiſtance. Amongſt the Number of Caſes now by me (which exceed fourteen Hundred), are ſome of ſcrophulated Breaſts (by Surgeons generally called Cancers) and determined to be cut off, but are happily well, or in a fair way of being ſo. I do not pretend to cure all that apply to me, that would be abſurd indeed: No, but I have been ſo fortunate as to cure ſome, given over by regular Practitioners, and recommended by them, to my Care. One Inſtance amongſt others, as follows:

Mrs.

Mrs. *Brown*, Wife of Mr. *Brown*, at the *Cock* in *Clare*, in *Suffolk*, brought me the underwritten.

SIR,

MRS. BROWN, the Bearer hereof, hath for ſome Months laboured under a Diſeaſe in her Breaſt, which the Surgeons term a Schirrhus. Various Applications have been tried, and many Medicines taken, which have only ſerved to alleviate her Complaints, without laying a Foundation for healing. This Diſeaſe hath ſo near an Affinity with the Evil, that I do not think but it may be really called ſuch. I wiſh you may be ſo fortunate as to direct ſomewhat that may be ſerviceable; and am, Sir,

Your humble Servant,

Surgeon in *Cavendiſh*,
Augt. 23, 1761.

RICHARD HAWES."

Mrs. *Brown* was a fat luſty Woman; aged 27. About a Year ſince a large Tumor roſe in her Right Breaſt, and gathered in nine ſeveral Places, opened, dreſt, and tented by the Surgeon, and diſcharged much; but that being thought inſufficient to leſſen the Breaſt, two Setons were made quite through the Breaſt (which was very large) cloſe to the Ribs, in the Form of a Croſs,

and

and as the Silk rotted in two (by the Virulence of the Matter), in eight or ten days, more Silk was put in. Four Surgeons met to take off the Breaſt, and told her, if it was not taken off, ſhe could not live to *Michaelmas* following; that her Breaſt would rot off in a Week or two, if not cut off. This was the State of the Breaſt, when I undertook it. The 30*th* of *November* following, I ſaw Mrs. *Brown*: all the Ulcers well healed, and the Breaſt firm, and herſelf in good Health and Spirits, without any Complaint whatever. *February* 27, 1762, ſhe was with me again, and ſhewed me her Right Breaſt, ſound and firm, but told me, that about three Weeks before, on taking cold, ſhe felt a daſhing pain in her Left Breaſt, which ſhe ſhewed me; there was a ſmooth ſoft Tumor riſing on the upper Part, above the Nipple, which had increaſed faſt, with ſome daſhing Pains. I ordered her proper Remedies for this new Complainr. *April* the 4*th* her Huſband came to tell me, the Tumor was broke and diſcharged in ſeveral Places round the Nipple. I directed accordingly, and *September* the 6*th* following, her Huſband came again, and told me, her Breaſt had been quite well two Months paſt, and his Wife in good Health and Spirits; no Complaint at all; and that the Day before he came, ſhe was delivered of a fine girl, and both like to do very well.

I ſaw

I ſaw her ſome Days after, examined her Right Breaſt, which had loſt the Nipple, all continued firm and well; and alſo her leſt Breaſt, but ſhe had no Milk in it; but no Complaint whatever. Mrs. *Brown* had Twins in a Year after, and has had ſeveral more Children; both Breaſts continue well and firm, and the laſt Lying-inn ſhe had Milk came into her Left Breaſt; which I think very extraordinary. It is eaſy to obſerve from this Caſe, that taking off Mrs. *Brown*'s Right Breaſt would have availed nothing; from the left Breaſt being diſordered in the ſame Manner: which plainly ſhews lhat amputating Limbs, or Members, are of little Service without the Conſtitution is amended; and then there is ſeldom any Occaſion for the Knife at all. I have not mentioned the Methods I uſed in Mrs. *Brown*'s Caſe, becauſe they are beyond the Management of the Vulgar. I ſhall mention the two following Caſes, to ſhew that no Age is exempt from this dreadful diſorder. *Samuel Pain*, Son of *Samuel Pain*, Weaver in *Clare* aforeſaid, was brought to me in the Month it was born with a large Ulcer on the Back of its Left Hand, was judged to be the King's Evil, by Mr. Young, a Surgeon of that Place, and by him recommended to my Care; this Infant was cured with a Root, ſome Vervain Water to cleanſe the Sore, and Vervain Ointment

ment on a Rag to the Place. The Father ſent me a Letter of Thanks, for making (as he expreſſes it) a ſafe Cure of his Child's Hand. It is evident from this Caſe, that very ſimple, gentle Methods are often very efficacious, if uſed in the Infancy of this Diſeaſe. The next Caſe is of *George Hogerall*, aged 88. He was formerly an Under-Gardener to 'Squire *Honywood* in *Eſſex*, but diſcharged ſome Years ſince. He was a freſh-coloured, healthy-looking Man, of his Years, as I have ſeen; has been ſo remarkably healthful all his Life, as never to take one Doſe of Phyſick. In the 86*th* Year of his Age, the Sight of both Eyes left him at once; ſince which he has had ſeveral ſmall ſcrophulous Tumors, broke on each Side his Neck, and diſcharged much, and ſeemed to be well digeſted. His Wife was with him (they had been married fifty Years) and confirmed the Account of his Health. I gave him my Aſſiſtance, and ordered him to call on me when he came this Way again. (They travelled the Country for a Maintenance.) This is almoſt three Years ago; and I have heard nothing of them ſince. He may poſſibly be dead; but I have Reaſon to think if he ſhould, that the Diſorder was not the Cauſe of it. Who could ever have thought, that the King's Evil ſhould lie dormant ſo long, in the Conſtitu-

tion

tion of ſuch a healthy Perſon, without the leaſt Symptoms, until the Age of Eighty-ſeven Years, and then appear in its genuine Form? From theſe two Inſtances it is very apparent, that no age is exempt from its cruel Ravages. I have had Application by Letter from many Perſons, deſiring me to to ſend my Medicines, and Directions, and my Charges for them, for which I ſhould be punctually paid. To which I anſwer, that I cannot comply with their Requeſts, without firſt ſeeing and examining the Patients themſelves, becauſe there are ſo great a Variety of Symptoms, and Queſtions proper to be aſked relative thereto (which no Letter can inform me of) that I can be no Judge of the Caſe, without a perſonal Inſpection and Conference, and conſequently, it is preſcribing blindfold for a Malady that is not to be treated in ſuch a ſuperficial Manner. Many People fancy, if I ſend them a Vervain Root, and order a little Phyſick, it will cure all the Complaints, Symptoms and Appearances of this Diſorder, not conſidering that ſuch various Symptoms, Conſtitutions, and the different Parts affected, and its intimate Connections with other Diſeaſes, require very differently appropriated Medicines and Applications, according to the Nature of the Caſe and its Combinations.

I ſhall only further add a few Obſervations on this Diſorder: I have had many Perſons that have been ſalivated, and taken many mercurial Preparations to very little Purpoſe; they are generally hurtful, and not ſeldom dangerous. I have found ſalt Water taken inwardly to have had bad Effects; outwardly it often dries up the Sores for a Time, which generally break out again near the ſame Places, and will continue to do ſo, unleſs the Habit of Body is altered. I very rarely order Bleeding, and never direct Vomits, which I think of no Uſe. Iſſues or Setons I do not approve, and generally dry them up, as they are apt to draw the Humours into, and inflame them, and are troubleſome, without any Aſſiſtance towards the Cure, as I could ever obſerve. I do not order Salts of any Kind for phyſical Purgation, but always the moſt mild and gentle Directions for that End. Hemlock I have uſed outwardly numberleſs Times with great Succeſs, but I adminiſter none inwardly; if any Tumors, &c. are near the Head, it muſt then be uſed with Caution, as in Caſe IV. I never uſe Knife or Cauſtic to open an Abſceſs, never more than the Point of a Lancet, and that but ſeldom, for I find proper Poultices much more eligible on many Accounts, too long here to enumerate. I

adviſe

adviſe all People who are coſtive under this this Diſorder, to keep the Body always ſoluble with very mild and gentle Purgatives; a little at a Time and often, is much more beneficial than ſtrong Purges and ſeldom: Never to wear any Covering over the Eyes, but waſh them often with cold Spring Water, which will ſtrengthen them and repel the Humour, and the Purgatives will carry it off. Theſe few Hints, I thought proper to add, to let People know, that it is gentle eaſy Methods, and not rough Preſcriptions and painful Applications, that are moſt efficacious in this obſtinate Diſorder. Perſons though ever ſo poor and diſtreſſed, are welcome to conſult me, for further Advice, if they find or even but ſuſpect themſelves to be tainted with this Diſorder, on any Morning (Sundays excepted) for I refuſe no Body (if I am well). As I am often ſent for many Miles to give my Advice to thoſe, who are unable, or unwilling to come to *Halſted* to me. I viſit any Perſons of Credit and Reputation, at *London*, or within an Hundred Miles of it, if they ſend, or order, a Carriage for me, and pay all my Expences on the Road, out and Home; giving me a few Days Notice. I have had many Guineas offered me, but never took one Shilling. Sometimes, indeed, neighbouring Gentlemen and Ladies have given me ſmall Acknowledg-

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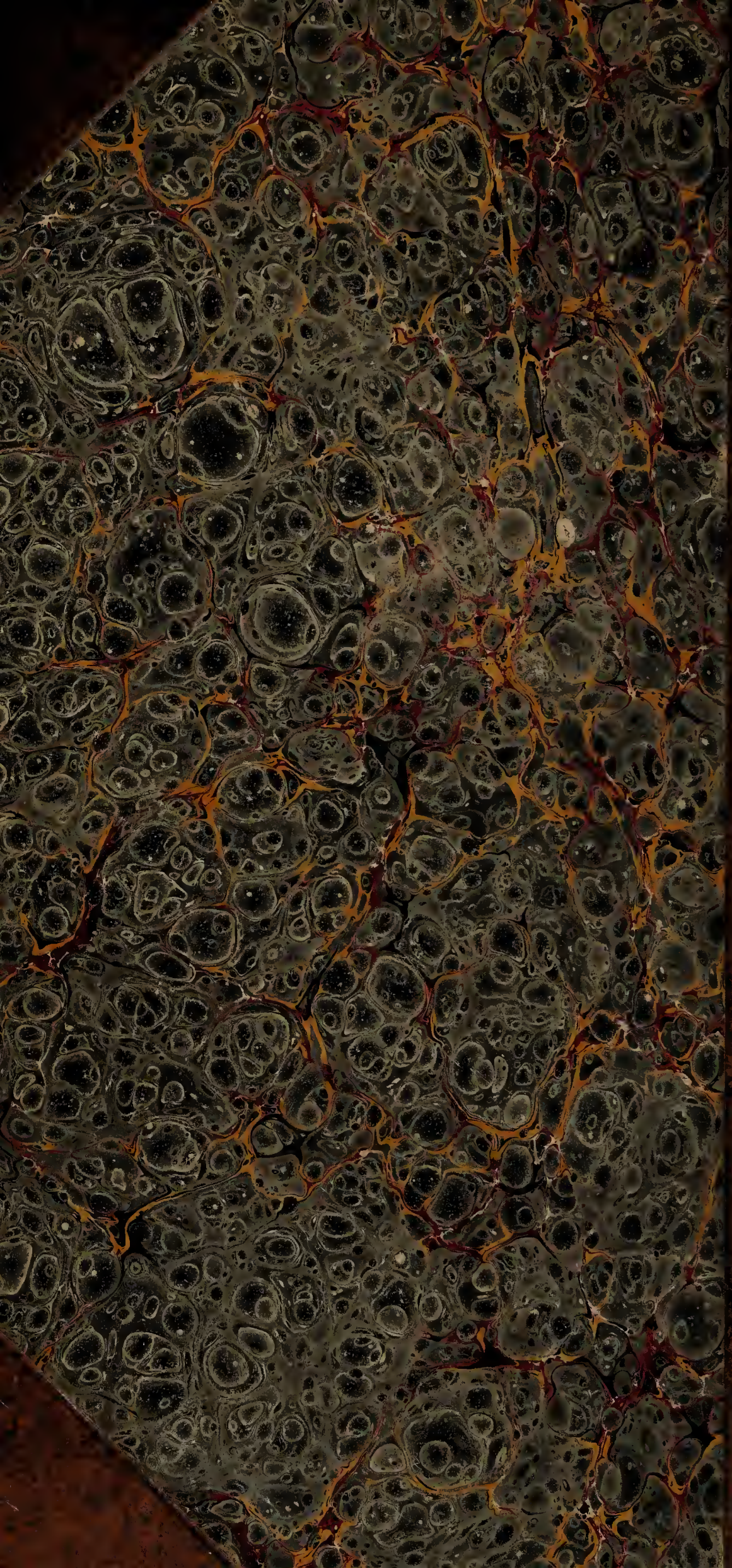
ments of Tea, Wine, Veniſon, &c. and when at a Diſtance, ſmall Pieces of Plate, or other Preſents have been ſent from genteel Perſons. I ſhould not have ſaid thus much; but I find ſome Gentlemen have expreſſed themſelves at a Loſs (as I take no Money) how to make me a Recompence for my Trouble; and others, fearing I ſhould afterwards make a large Demand for my Aſſiſtance, have been deterred from conſulting me; but I have no ſuch lucrative Views; only the Good of my Fellow-Creatures at Heart. No body can be ſo mean and unreaſonable, as to expect I ſhould be Money out of Pocket for their Service. The Pleaſure I take in relieving the Afflicted of my own Species, affords me the higheſt Content and Satisfaction.

Evil be to them, that Evil think.

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